

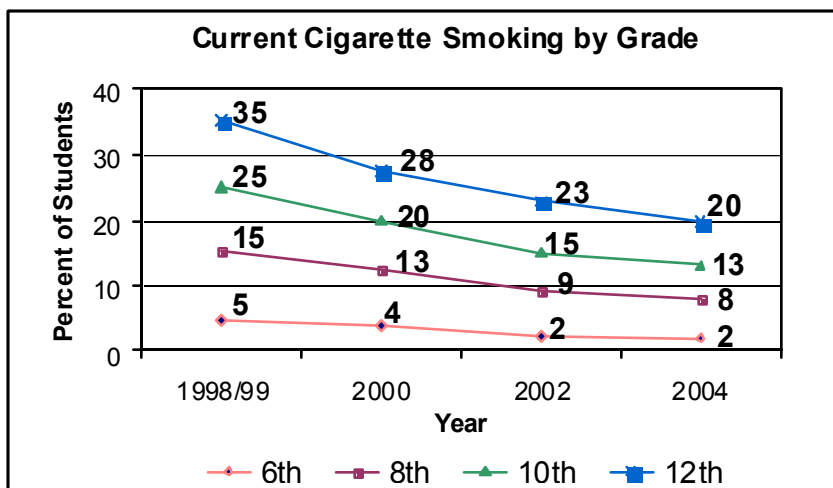
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Youth Cigarette Smoking Rates

## Youth Cigarette Smoking Rates

- According to the 2004 Healthy Youth Survey, the rate of smoking among youth has dropped by about half since the launch of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program in 2000.
- Since the state began tracking youth smoking in 1990, the rate has dropped to an all time low. Washington continues to be ahead of the nation in achieving lower youth smoking rates.
- Smoking is down for all grades. Sixth-graders smoking is down 57 percent, and eighth-graders smoking is down 49 percent since 1998; tenth-graders smoking is down 48 percent and twelfth-graders smoking is down 44 percent since 1999.
- Statewide there are about 65,000 fewer youth smoking (adjusted to Census 2000 population). Nearly 13,000 kids will be spared an early death.
- Since the start of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program in 2000, youth smoking rates have steadily declined.
- At the beginning of the program, 65 youth took up smoking every day. Now 45 youth are beginning to smoke every day.

## Youth cigarette smoking rates have steadily declined



*Current smoking is defined as individuals who have smoked cigarettes on any days during the past 30 days. Baseline data were from 1998 for 6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grades, 1999 for 10<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> grades..*

## Changes in Current Tobacco Use among 10<sup>th</sup> Graders from 2000 to 2004

### Changes by Gender among 10<sup>th</sup> Graders

10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Percent of Students			Change* from 2000 to 2004
Gender	2000	2002	2004	
Boys	18%	15%	12%	Down about 30%
Girls	22%	15%	14%	Down about 35%

### Changes by Race/Ethnicity among 10<sup>th</sup> Graders

10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Percent of Students			Change* from 2000 to 2004
Race/Ethnicity	2000	2002	2004	
American Indian / Alaskan Native	41%	31%	23%	Down about 45%
Asian American / Pacific Islander	15%	12%	10%	No significant change
Black / African-American	23%	17%	12%	Down about 50%
Hispanic/Latino/Latina	21%	11%	12%	Down about 40%
White	19%	15%	13%	Down about 30%

### Changes in Smokeless Tobacco Use among 10<sup>th</sup> Graders

10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Percent of Students			Change* from 2000 to 2004
Tobacco Type	2000	2002	2004	
Smokeless tobacco (chew, dip, snuff)	5%	5%	5%	No significant change

\*Change is based on the relative percent change from 2000 to 2004.

Changes noted are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.

### Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Prevention Efforts

- The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program is a comprehensive effort that partners with local health departments, schools, tribes and community-based organizations to ensure youth receive tobacco prevention information at school, at work, at home, and where they socialize. Efforts to prevent youth from taking up the tobacco habit include support for youth groups, educational programs in schools, concert sponsorships, and a cutting-edge multi-media ad campaign and Web site ([www.UnfilteredTV.com](http://www.UnfilteredTV.com)). The department also works with retailers to make it more difficult for youth to buy tobacco products.

### 2004 Healthy Youth Survey

- The 2004 Healthy Youth Survey was taken anonymously by more than 185,000 students in 235 districts and 1,013 schools. Responses from over 30,000 students contributed to the statewide figures. The survey tracks behaviors that affect health such as tobacco and alcohol use, and seatbelt use among sixth, eighth, tenth and twelfth graders. The Department of Health, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Social and Health Services and Department of Community, and Trade and Economic Development jointly fund the study every two years.